



**THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS/OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS**

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**Information Regarding Incidents During the
July 2014 California Bar Examination and Grading of the Examination**

During administration of the July 2014 California Bar Examination at the Pasadena Convention Center and McClellan Convention Center Test Centers on Tuesday, July 29, 2014, there were applicants with medical issues, which caused disturbances during the morning sessions of the examination. While staff and proctors immediately addressed the situations with care and concern, it was determined that emergency personnel were needed and 911 was called immediately at each location. When the responders arrived, they entered the examination rooms, assessed the situations and took the applicants with medical issues out of the examination rooms as soon as they could be moved.

These incidents were reported to the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee) after administration of the examination. In response, the Committee asked its measurement consultant to perform psychometric studies on whether the incidents adversely impacted applicants' performances at these test centers during the morning session of the first day of the examination. Specifically, the Committee's measurement consultant was asked to examine whether the essay questions 1-3 scores of the applicants at these test centers, separately, were lower than what would be expected on the basis of their scores on the rest of the examination.

The Committee's consultant conducted statistical "pro-rata" and regression analyses. In the pro-rata analyses, the consultant did not find that the differences between the average essay answers 1-3 and the average of all other written questions in the purported impacted test centers and non-impacted test centers were statistically different. The test center effects were also found to be non-significant in the regression analyses that were conducted. The consultant also investigated what the distribution of those differences looked like at each of the 21 test centers (as opposed to simply looking at the impacted test centers compared to all other applicants). Again, there was no evidence to suggest that the affected test centers had been negatively impacted.

Since there were no adverse impacts found, adjustments to applicants' scores taking the examination at these two test centers are not warranted.

The Committee believes it has taken all necessary steps to ensure that applicants have been treated fairly at the Pasadena Convention Center and McClellan Convention Center Test Centers. Individual requests from unsuccessful applicants for reconsideration of their scores based on their personal experiences as a result of these incidents will not be considered. While the Committee certainly regrets that these incidents occurred, the fact that they did was beyond its control.